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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/790,609

03/01/2004

Anthony Steve Pearson

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09/22/2006

KUNZLER & ASSOCIATES
8 EAST BROADWAY
SUITE 600
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111

EXAMINER

HO, BINH VAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2163

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/790,609

Applicant(s)

PEARSON ET AL.

Examiner

Binh V. Ho

Art Unit

2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/01/2004.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 11 is rejected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 11, lines 3-4 "a a plurality" should be changed to --a plurality --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-12, 14, and 16-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dings (US 6,978,282).

(Claims 1, 11, 17, 20, and 30-32)

Dings discloses in figures 1, 5, 6, 14-15, 17, 18, 19, and 22-24 an apparatus for managing multiple copy versions of a source volume, the apparatus comprising a replication record management module configured to maintain a current replication record descriptive of a current copy version of a source volume; a pre-pairing record management module configured to maintain a future pre-pairing record descriptive of a future copy version of the source volume; and a copy record module configured to create a copy record from a pre-copy record, the pre-copy record comprising one of the

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current replication record and the future pre-pairing record (col. 9, lines 57 +; col. 12, lines 44 +; col. 14, lines 53 +).

(Claims 2-7, and 21-26)

Dings discloses in figures 5-6, 14-15, 17-19, and 22-24 further comprising a replication module configured to replicate the source volume on a target volume and create a new copy version of the source volume according to the copy record (col. 7, lines 18-29, 61-64; col. 11, lines 7-9; col. 12, lines 20-26, 44 +; col. 15, lines 10-17, lines 64-67).

(Claims 8, and 27)

Dings discloses in figures 5, 14, and 17-18, further comprising a target selection module configured to locate a target volume available for use to create a copy version of the source volume (col. 11, lines 5-9; col. 12, lines 44-58, col. 18, lines 1-10).

(Claims 9, 10, 28, and 29)

Dings discloses in figures 14, and 17-18, the copy record module being further configured to verify the future pre-pairing record and to account for a change in one of a source pool and a target pool (col. 6, lines 5-13).

(Claims 12 and 14)

Dings discloses in figures 1, 5, 14, and 17-18, the change in the data copy environment comprising an addition of a source volume to a source pool.

(Claim 16)

Dings discloses in figures 1, 5, 14, and 17-18, wherein dynamically managing the plurality of replication records comprising verifying the current status of a volume in the

data copy environment and updating a replication record in response to a change from a previous status of the volume (col. 7, lines 18-29; col. 12, lines 20-26; col. 15, lines 10-20, 52-67).

(Claims 18 and 19)

Dings discloses in figures 1, 5, 14, and 17-18, the backup manager further comprises a backup information module configured to store the backup information, the backup information comprising a replication record, a volume inventory, a copy pool inventory, and a dataset inventory (col. 12, lines 20-26; col. 15, lines 10-20, 42-45, 64-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dings (US 6,978,282) in view of Ashton (US 6,959,369).

(Claims 13 and 15)

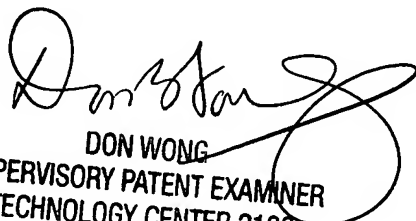
Dings discloses substantially all of the elements, except a removal of a source / target volume from a source / target pool. Ashton teaches in figures 1, 3, 5-6, the storage may comprising an internal storage device or an attached or network accessible storage. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a removal of a source or target volume for convenience.

Inquiry

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh V. Ho whose telephone number is 571 272 8583. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don K. Wong can be reached on 571 272 1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


DON WONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Binh V Ho
Examiner
Art Unit 2163

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